(b) The old bridge which consisted of 14 x 18.3 metres girders each of Up and Down lines was completely damaged resulting in washing away of all 28 girders and uprooting/shearing of the 13 piers.

(c) A temporary bridge was constructed to restore single line working, and traffic was restored on 27.9.76. Double line working on temporary bridges was introduced on 2.11.76 and the permanent new bridge in replacement of the old bridge was opened to traffic on 9.5.77.

National Highways during Seventh Plan

1830. SHRI M. BASAVARAJU: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no road in Karnataka has been declared as National Highways for the last twelve years;

(b) whether proposals were invited from different States for making new additions to the existing new highways system while formulating Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(c) if so, what are the names of States who sent the proposals and what are the details of roads in kilometres ir each State, which are likely to be declared as National Highways?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRI BANSI LAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Compulstory moral education in Schools and Colleges

1831. SHRIMATI MONIKA DAS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to make moral education compulsory in all the schools and colleges in the country for the development of human resources; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SMT. SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b) Promotion of national and individual character is an important aim of the curriculum at the school stage. During the Seventh Five Year Plan period, it is intended that the curriculum, textbooks and teacher training programme should be strengthened further in this regard. Similar value-orientation to the first degree courses offered by Colleges is visualised in the Seventh Plan.

Shortage of Urdu text books

1832. SHRI SHAMIM AHMED SIDDIQI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the shortage of the text books in Urdu;

(b) whether Government propose to assign the job of publishing the Urdu text books to the Urdu Academies; and

(c) if not, what other steps Government propose to take to overcome the shortage of Urdu text books?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SMT. SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) to (c) The preparation, production and prescription of textbooks at the school stage is the responsibility of either the State Education Departments or the Boards of Secondary/School Education. This Ministry has, as such, no specific information which would indicate that shortage of text books in Urdu is being experienced in different States.

The National Council of Educational Research and Training has undertaken preparation as well as translation in Urdu of the text books which it has prepared and which are being used in Kendriya Vidyalayas and schools affiliated to the Central Board of Secondary Education, New Delhi. While

translation of its textbooks is undertaken by NCERT, the Bureau for the Promotion of Urdu also assists in printing them. The States/Boards of Schools/Secondary Education are free to adopt and prescribe these books for use in their schools.

Whether the task of printing and publishing of Urdu textbooks can be assigned to State Urdu Academies would have to be considered by the State Education Departments.

Losses to Madras Port Trust properties

1833. SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether assessment has been made about the damages to the Port Trust properties, stores cargoes etc. in the Madras harbour due to recent floods and rains;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof: and

(c) what were the details of precautionary steps taken by the Port authorities on the receipt of warnings from the Metereological Department?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRI BANSI LAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Assessment of damages to the equipments, accessories and civil works of the Port Trust due to recent floods and rains has been made and details thereof are given below:

	Amount Rs.
1. Cost of damages to civil works	79,000
2. Cost of accessories of electrical and mechanical Department damaged	1,84,700
3. Cost of medical surgical stores items and accessories damaged	33,725
TOTAL	Rs. 2,97.425

(c) The Port Trust had taken the following preventive measures:—

(i) Checking of cables, pillar boxes, plug boxes, drainages, bolts and nuts of roofing sheets, fenders on the quays, etc. in order to avoid damage during cyclone period.

(ii) All land based equipments like cranes, ship-loaders etc. were secured properly. All ports Flotilla were anchored and moored in the boat basin.

(iii) Electrical power supply in vulnerable sections were switched off. Stand-by generators was kept ready for operation with enough fuel and personnel. Stand-by vehicles were kept ready for quick transport of staff and employees for remedial measures during rain.

(iv) Cyclone manual detailing actions to be taken by the respective divisions during the time of heavy rain and cyclone was issued long before the cyclone period.

(v) Round-the clock postings were made and control-room activities were geared up. Parallel communication network like wireless was kept ready.

Losses to Southern Railways due to floods

1834. SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of losses suffered by the Southern Railways due to floods during November, 1985;

(b) by when the normal train services between Villupuram and Madras are likely to be resumed; and

(c) the total loss of earnings due to disruption of train services on that account?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The total loss suffered by Southern Railway as a result of damage to track, bridges, overhead electrical equipment and signalling gear is approximately Rs. 8.62 crores.